Cities, Viz., Pushpa Gujral Science City, Kapurthala and Science City, Gujarat at Ahmedabad are under development with the financial support from the Government of India. The Regional Science Centre at Lucknow is being up-graded to a Regional Science City.

(c) The Government of India fully funded the project of Science City, Kolkata to the tune of Rs. 60.00 crores. To-date, Rs. 38.50 crores have been released to Pushpa Gujaral Science City, Kapurthala. A sum of Rs. 3.00 crores has been released to Gujarat Council of Science City for Science City, Ahmedabad and another Rs. 2.00 crores for the upgradation of Regional Science Centre to Regional Science City, Lucknow.

(d) and (e) Complete details of the project proposal including the commitment of matching funds from the State Government are awaited.

Conservation of monumental structures in Delhi

2300. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to resotre and conserve 42 monumental structures in Delhi at tombs of Humayun and Nizamuddin in an integrated manner;

(b) if so, the details of the project;

(c) whether Government propose to focus on the conservation work at Ghalib Ki Mazar and Urs Mahal etc; and

(d) whether the project is proposed to be developed on the lines of India Gate by giving it a fascinating walking area?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) There are 28 (and not 42) centrally protected monuments in the vicinity of Tombs of Humayun and Nizamuddin area in Delhi, out of which 10 monuments including Galib Ki Mazar and Urs Mahal have been taken up for comprehensive conservation and overall development. The remaining would be taken up in the second phase.

(c) The conservation works on these sites/monuments have been completed.

(d) It would have a fascinating walking area but of its own kind and not an imitation or replica of India Gate walking area.

Representation from hoteliers and travel agents for scrapping service tax

2301. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from hoteleriers and travel agents for scrapping of 8 per cent service tax on travel agents; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the representation and what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from the hoteliers and tour operators for exemption of service tax.

(b) Vide notification No. 21/2003-ST dated 20.11.2003 all services for which payment is received in convertible foreign exchange has been exempted from the payment of service tax. At present there is no exemption available to travel agents. Ministry of Finance have informed that in view of ensuing budget, no specific comments can be offered at this stage in regard to considering the proposals for grant of exemption.

Treasures in Foreign Countries

2302. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any effort to bring back treasures of India from foreign countries;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government and the results thereof; and

(c) the details of the treasures in different foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.